BRIDGE ACROSS THE MISSOURI RIVER IN DOUGLAS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

APRIL 24, 1884.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SEYMOUR, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 6762.]

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2385) to authorize certain individuals to erect a bridge across the Missouri River, between the north and south line of the county of Douglas, State of Nebraska, have had the same under consideration, and report as follows:

That Senate bill 606 is a copy of House bill 2385, and that the said Senate bill having been under consideration by the Senate Committee on Commerce and said committee having, through one of its members, Senator Vest, recommended a substitute for Senate bill 606, which substitute is numbered 1539, and differs from the original bill principally in that it recommends that the Nebraska Central Railroad Company be authorized to erect said bridge instead of the individuals named in Senate bill 606 and House bill 2385.

Your committee find that there is erected and in operation across the Missouri River, opposite the county of Douglas, State of Nebraska, one bridge over which all the traffic on the main line, between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, is transported; that there are received and shipped from the city of Omaha alone about one thousand car-loads of freight each week, and for the accommodation of commerce and the reduction of tolls incident to competition there should be erected, by some other company than the one having the present bridge in charge, another bridge across the Missouri River at the point where the present one is proposed to be located.

The present substitute bill recommended by the Senate has all the safeguards to navigation embraced by different acts of Congress under which thirteen bridges have been built across the Mississippi River, between Saint Louis and Saint Paul, and over which river there is at least twenty times the traffic by boats and barges that there is upon the Missouri at the point of the proposed bridge, and the present bill, that is, the substitute offered by the Senate committee, is identical in character and phraseology with several other bills recommended by both the Senate and House Committees on Commerce at the present session.

Your committee therefore recommend as a substitute for House bill 2385 the accompanying, which is a copy of the substitute offered by Senate committee for Senate bill 606, and recommend its passage.